

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN KEVIN J. MARTIN**

Re: Implementation of Section 224 of the Act; Amendment of the Commission's Rules and Policies Governing Pole Attachments WC Docket No. 07-245, RM-11293, RM-11303

I am pleased that the Commission has adopted this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking tentatively concluding to adopt a single rate for all pole attachments used to provide broadband services, providing a level playing field for all providers of broadband. Establishing parity between all providers of broadband services will help to promote competition between providers of broadband services. The Commission will continue to look for ways to remove barriers to competition across all platforms and with respect to all services that we regulate. The public interest demands that all Americans reap the benefits of competition.

It is also important that pole owners be properly compensated for the use of their infrastructure by others. I do not think electric consumers should be subsidizing any broadband companies. Establishing parity should not come at the expense of pole owners or electric consumers.

Pole attachments provide an important means for the deployment of broadband and other services to Americans. However, the safety and reliability of critical electric infrastructure is a paramount concern. Our work on telecommunications reliability should not come at the expense of other public safety systems. I look forward to developing a full record in response to this Notice.